

# REPORT

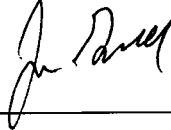
**DATE:** December 1, 2005

**TO:** Administration and Regional Council

**FROM:** Heather Copp, Chief Financial Officer  
213-236-1804 [copp@scag.ca.gov](mailto:copp@scag.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT:** FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Application: Southern California Multi-Jurisdictional, Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:**



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## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt Resolution # 05-469-1 authorizing SCAG to apply for and accept FEMA Grant funds and amend the SCAG Overall Work Plan (OWP).

## SUMMARY:

Staff seeks approval to apply for up to \$ 1,000,000 in FEMA grant funds, which are awarded to States and local governments through a nationwide, competitive process for pre-disaster mitigation planning activities with a performance period of up to three years. Pursuant to FEMA regulations, multi-jurisdictional grants are awarded in recognition of the fact that many mitigation issues are better resolved by evaluating hazards in a more comprehensive fashion. Our preliminary concept for the grant application is to focus on regional coordination of the many hazard mitigation plans and activities of the local jurisdictions within the SCAG region. The SCAG FEMA grant application will stress our commitment to communication and outreach with both the general public and local jurisdictions throughout our planning process.

## BACKGROUND:

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation program was authorized by §203 of the Robert T. Safford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act, 42 U.S.C. 5133, to assist states and communities to implement a continuous pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from actual disaster declarations. Between \$50 million and \$150 million is anticipated be available nationwide for FY 2006. States are eligible to apply for grant funds as applicants, with local governments eligible as sub-applicants. A FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan is required before a jurisdiction can apply for FEMA funds for mitigation projects.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) administers the FEMA pre-disaster mitigation grant application process for sub-applicants in California and ranks all sub-applications prior to submittal to FEMA. SCAG successfully completed a required Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply for this FEMA grant. OES deemed SCAG eligible to apply for the grant and found that the development of a multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan is an eligible activity under the grant program. The highest OES ranking will be awarded to plans that address multiple hazards, in multiple jurisdictions, and with the largest population in high hazards areas. Thirty-five percent of the FEMA national ranking is given to those sub-applications with the highest OES ranking. Applications are due to OES by December 23, 2005 utilizing FEMA's internet-based e-Grant application system. Awards are expected to be announced by the late Spring, 2006.

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**FISCAL IMPACT:**

SCAG will be required to provide a cash or in-kind match of 25% of the total project cost, to be financed with non-federal funds.

**RESOLUTION #05-469-1 OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
TO APPROVE AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR AND  
ACCEPT FEMA PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLANNING GRANT  
FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for six counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial;

**WHEREAS**, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), was authorized by §203 of the Robert T. Safford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act, 42 U.S. C. 5133, to assist states and communities to implement a continuous, pre-disaster, natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from actual disaster declarations;

**WHEREAS**, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program will require at least a 25% cash or in-kind match financed with non-federal funds. SCAG intends to apply for up to \$1,000,000 in grant funds, which will require a 25% match, equaling \$333,333; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program is a voluntary, competitive grant program that includes multi-jurisdictional grants in recognition of the fact that many mitigation issues are better resolved by evaluating hazards in a more comprehensive fashion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments to authorize SCAG to apply for, accept and manage a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning Grant and to collaborate with other stakeholders in the grant program, and to implement the grant through the appropriate fiscal year OWP as amended.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

1. That the Regional Council approves and authorizes submittal of the grant and related documents for approval to FEMA, and if the grant is approved, include the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning Grant funds in the appropriate fiscal year OWP;
2. That SCAG pledges to secure cash or in-kind services, or both, for the matching funds necessary to receive Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning Grant funds; and
3. That the SCAG Executive Director or in his absence, the Deputy Executive Director, is hereby designated and authorized by the Regional Council to execute all related agreements on behalf of the Regional Council for receipt of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning Grant funds.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the unanimous vote of the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at a regular meeting this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2005.

TONI YOUNG  
President, SCAG  
Councilmember, City of Port Hueneme

Mark Pisano  
Executive Director

Karen Tachiki  
Chief SCAG Legal Counsel